



UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND  
DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231  
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JUN 25 2003

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MCLEAN, VA 22102

In re Application of :  
Martin Caldwell et al :  
Serial No.: 09/936,841 :  
Filed: September 18, 2000 :  
For: A Surgical Access Device : DECISION ON PETITION

This is in response to the petition applicant filed on June 4, 2003 to make the above-identified application special under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.102(d).

Applicant has satisfied the provisions set forth in M.P.E.P. 708.02, VIII, thus the petition is **GRANTED**.

The application will be forwarded to the examiner for action on the merits commensurate with this decision.

Should there be any questions with regard to this letter please contact John Kittle by letter addressed to the Director, Technology Center 3700/2900, Box Design, Washington, DC 20231, or by telephone at (703) 308-0873 or by facsimile transmission at (703) 308-3139.

  
John E. Kittle  
Director  
Technology Center 3700/2900